

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A metal engaging plate is arranged at an inlet side of a core. A tooth portion of the engaging plate engages with end edges of catalyst carriers. Mutual separation of the stacked catalyst carriers can be suppressed by the tooth portion of the engaging plate. Accordingly, an aperture opening phenomenon that the catalyst carriers are separated from one another by a flowing-in pressure of the exhaust gas can be prevented from being generated. As a result, purification 10 performance of the exhaust gas can be improved.

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